



— State of —
North Dakota
Office of the Governor

John Hoeven
Governor

PROCLAMATION
UNIVERSITY OF MARY
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
NOVEMBER 17, 2008

WHEREAS, on November 17, 1959, the Benedictine Sisters of the Annunciation B.M.V. organized a corporation known as Mary College to establish, conduct, operate and maintain a college and school of instruction in any and all professional, semi-professional, musical, artistic, technical, literary, educational and fine arts courses; and

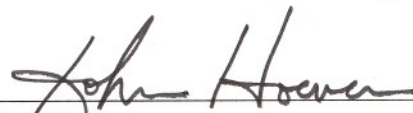
WHEREAS, the Benedictine Sisters have built a heritage of serving the needs of the region since 1878, when they came to Bismarck, Dakota Territory, and have declared their abiding presence and dedicated commitment to the people of Bismarck-Mandan, the Diocese of Bismarck and the state of North Dakota since becoming an independent foundation in 1947; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, Mary College became the University of Mary, and in 2001, set forth its vision of becoming America's Leadership University, and today continues to serve the religious, academic and cultural needs of people in this region and beyond by preparing students to become leaders through service; and

WHEREAS, today, the University of Mary serves nearly 3,000 students on-site and online in Bismarck, as well as in six states and seventeen sites, through its School of Accelerated and Distance Education; and


WHEREAS, the University of Mary's 16,000 alumni are marked by competence in achieving professional success, courage in making ethical decisions based in Benedictine values and compassion in serving the needs of others.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim November 17, 2008, as the initiation of a year-long celebration recognizing the University of Mary for 50 years of academic excellence and the Benedictine Sisters of Annunciation Monastery for their years of service to Bismarck and Mandan, the state of North Dakota and the region.



John Hoeven
Governor

ATTEST:



Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State